

DISCLAIMER: These Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) are for the exclusive use of Navy Public Works Center (PWC) Norfolk. They are promulgated as guidance for their NAVFAC Commands. If intended to be used by other activities, they must be tailored to each activity's particular requirements and must be reviewed/approved by the activity's safety professionals prior to use.

USING SWITCHGEAR MOUNTED LIFTS

Purpose:

Using the switchgear mounted lifts for lifting or lowering equipment(usually breakers).

Potential Energy Sources:

None.

Tools and PPE:

Electric safety shoes, hard hat, leather work gloves, 1/4" diameter or larger rope/chain or breaker manufacturer's lift (if available).

References:

1. PWC Safety Manual lockout/tagout procedures.
2. OSHA 1910.333 safe working practices.
3. OSHA 1910.180,184 "Truck cranes", "Slings"

Procedure:

WEAR ALL PPE DURING THIS ENTIRE PROCEDURE

1. Inspect the sling or breaker manufacturer's lift. Inspect switchgear winch, fasteners, cable, b, and hook. Never use a rope, chain, winch, or cable that is damaged to lift equipment.
2. Connect breaker or other piece of equipment with a sling or the breaker manufacturers lift(if available) to the winch. Use breaker manufacturer's lift, shackles, or other positive latching device to attach to the load. Never lift equipment with a weight over 760 lbs unless rated capacities in section 1910.184 are not exceeded. Never exceed vertical angles as stated in tables N-184 in 1910.184. 480 volt shore power feeder breakers weigh approximately 150-200lbs mains weigh approximately 300-400lbs. Always connect to the frame of the breaker(Never connect to the insulators).
2. Ensure all personnel in the vault are clear of the breaker.
3. Lower or raise equipment into or out of the switchgear cubicle racks. Try to stand clear of the winch during operation.

4. After breaker has been placed in rack, stand clear of breaker while transferring the weight from the winch to the rack.
5. Disconnect the sling of breaker manufacturer's lift from the breaker and retract the winch cable to ensure that no employee will bump the hanging cable while walking in front of the switchgear.